A true

RELATION

Of all the

BLOODY MURDERS

That have been committed in and about

THE

CITIE and SUBURBS

OF

LONDON,

Since the 4th of this instant *June* 1677.

With an Account how, and after what manner they were committed.

Together with the Apprehending of three Highway-men on *Thursday* last, for a Robbery by them committed neer *Kingston*; shewing the manner of their taking, and commitment to Newgate.

With Allowance.

LONDON: Printed for *D. M.* 1677.

A true Relation of all the Bloody Murthers that have been committed in and about the Citie and Suburbs of *London*, since the 3d of this instant *June* 1677.

THe second Offence that we read of committed in the world, was that barbarous and unnatural sin of Murder; wicked *Cain*, incensed with Malice, embruing his hands in the Bloud of his righteous Brother *Abel*. From this odious Original Mankinde has since with accursed industry drawn too many sanguine Copies.

The madness of many debauched Hectors being of late become so great, and Murtherers by means of this pernitious fashion of every giddy-brain'd *Huffado*'s wearing a Weapon grown so frequent, that even in the most Civiliz'd Nation, and best Govern'd Citie in the World, it seems a dangerous Adventure

for an honeſt perſon to walk along the ſtreets eſpecially in the evening, upon his lawful occaſions, without being aſſaulted or aſſaſſinated by theſe boiſterous Deſperado's.

---Pudet hæc opprobria nobis,
Et dici potuiſſe & non potuiſſe refelli.

We have continually freſh Inſtances of this murtherous Phrenſie, as if the defacing God's Image, and taking away unjuſtly the life of ones Brother, were but a piece of Gallantry, a thing little more to be regarded than the Butcheries of *Domitian*'s Fly-flap, or *Homer*'s Imaginary Slaughters of Frogs and Mice.

But the very laſt Seſſions at the *Old Baily* one perſon received Sentence of Death for killing an innocent Tub-man; yet notwithſtanding the ſad preſident of his Condemnation, we had preſently a freſh example of the like unbridled Fury. For on Munday the 4th inſtant, a young man keeping a Victualling-houſe in *Biſhops-gate-ſtreet* having

ving been abroad (according to the cuſtom of the Holy days) with a Gentlewoman that 'tis ſaid he had a kindneſs for; as they were peaceably walking home neer *Bow*-Church, a perſon they met better arm'd with a Sword, than ſeaſon'd with Diſcretion, took ſome impertinent occaſion to quarrel with him about taking the wall, juſtling him, or the like trifle; and drawing his weapon moſt valiantly upon this naked man, preſently laid him dead at his feet; for which he was apprehended upon the place, and after examination before a Magiſtrate committed to *Newgate*, where he now remains.

It ſhould ſeem ſome malevolent bloudy Stars were about this time Reigning For the very ſame night in the *Strand* was found the body of a worthy Gentleman of a good Family murdered in the ſtreet, being run thorow, and his Breeches filled with bloud. 'Tis conceived by his cloaths, that after the murder committed he had been brought out of ſome houſe, and drag'd along in the dirt: but from whence, or what miſchievous hand was guilty of the fact, remains yet undiſcovered; though

though 'tis not doubted but Providence in due time will bring the malefactor to light; it being a Ruled Case in the just Records of Fate, That such horrid Crimes rarely escape *punishment* in *this world*, and never (unrepented of) *Vengeance* in *that which is to come*. In order whereunto, the Coroner's Inquest upon viewing the body, assisted with Chirurgeons, have returned their Verdict that he was murthered.

The same night and the next day, upon sudden Frays and Rancounters, there happen'd two other sad Accidents: Two people being dangerously wounded, of whom one for some time time was reported to have been dead; but since we understand that to be a mistake, and that 'tis well hoped both of them may recover.

To these bloudy Tidings we may adde more, though of another kinde, and though not altogether so cruel and inhumane, yet most detestable, and destructive to humane Society and Commerce, and therefore by the Prudence of our Ancestors thought fit to be restrained under no les- than Capital Punish-

ment.

ment. And this of three persons who on *Thursday* the 7th of this instant *June* were secured in *Newgate* for a Robbery by them committed on the High-way. 'Tis supposed they have for some time followed that Trade more than those they were bred to, and therefore may probably have committed several greater Exploits: but in that for which they were taken, their Prize was not very considerable, having taken (as we are informed) only a Watch, a Sword, a Whip, and Nine shillings in Money.

These Offenders are said to have lived lately about *Fleet-street*, and kept up Reputation amongst their Neighbours as very civil persons, carrying on their Padding-designes so secretly, that they were not suspected, till having committed this Robbery neer *Kingston* upon *Thames*; They were observed to Ferry over at *Putney*, and so pursued by the Hue and Cry till taken.

'Tis lamentable to consider, that so many sad Examples every day before their eyes, cannot deter wicked men from such nefarious and destructive practices: That Fear at least,

if

if not Vertuous Principles and love to Goodness, cannot restrain them, and perswade them to view their own impending Fate in the Looking-glass of other Criminals ignominious Catastrophes.

If this Narrative may be instrumental to awaken them, and reduce any such Extravagants into the safer paths of Sobriety and Repentance, we shall esteem our well-intended pains abundantly recompens'd for this Publication.

FINIS.

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